Dividend paid by VSNL to Exchequer

*113. SHRIJIBON ROY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state the amount of divident paid by VSNL to Government exchequer during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTRY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): The amount of divident paid by VSNL to Government exchequer during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001 is as follows:-

1999-2000 — Rs. 40.26 crores

2000-2001 — Rs. 754.82 crores

Funds under Technology Support Scheme

*114. DR. C. NARAYANAREDDY:

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry provided funds to some institutions under the scheme of Technological support;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the quantum of work turned out by these institutions with particular reference to development of software in the Indian languages; and

(d) what steps Government propose to speed up the development process?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)These Institutiosn include: Academic Institutions like IITs. Universities etc. and R&D Societies such as Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC), Electronics Research and Development Centre (ER&DCI), CEERI.

(c) Under Technology Development for Indian Language (TDIL) programme, development of Software in Indian Languages include: